

ALICE'S WONDERLAND BAKERY

EPISODE #: TBD

"Thistle on Tour"

Outline

12/13/22

ACT ONE

BEAT A: In the FLOWER GARDEN, we find THISTLE (our showman flower, decked out in WARM-UP GEAR) dancing in a dirt clearing. He's mid-rehearsal, practicing his NEW SHOW. He calls out light cues to his stage manager, KIKI THE CATERPILLAR. She directs CAMPFIREFLIES to swarm overhead in a dazzling pattern. With another of her many hands, she pulls a WAND out of her FANNY PACK and creates bubble formations.

ALICE (in TEA PARTY DRESS), HATTIE, and FERGIE arrive in the TEA PARTY TO-GO CART. They're excited to see the new show Thistle is taking out ON TOUR. His performances are renown in Wonderland for being the biggest and flashiest around. Alice has even volunteered to make SNAP-ALONG GINGER SNAPS with Thistle's likeness on them to hand out at each venue.

BEAT B: Thistle thanks Alice for the cookies (and sneaks one for himself). He's got to keep his energy up for the NEW SONG he's written! That's why he's going on tour – to perform the song. And he's got a show full of quintessential Thistle flair to match it.

He points out objects as he describes the show to Alice: "I'll enter by bubble. Land on a twirling mome rath stage. Shine under the campfireflies' lights as I'm showered in sprinkles from the chocolate canon. Then... I'll sing my new song!"

BEAT C: Alice agrees it sounds like an amazing show. Thistle admits he doesn't have a way to get to each venue, though. Which brings him to his next bit of exciting news! He's inviting Alice, Hattie, and Fergie to go on tour with him by taking him around in the Tea Party To-Go Cart!

Hattie is thrilled to follow Thistle's show around Wonderland, and Fergie thumps his foot with excitement. He's never toured anything except his carrot patch. Alice is happy to help Thistle get from show to show. It's a good thing the Tea Party To-Go Cart has ample cargo room because Thistle has a lot of stuff! Thistle says that's how he does his shows: BIG. Next level. Out of this Wonderland! "Alice, you bring the sprinkles. I'll bring the sparkles! And 12 suitcases."

BEAT D: Alice, Hattie, and Fergie load costumes, instruments, and the Snap-along Ginger Snaps into the Tea Party To-Go Cart. Kiki herds the campfireflies onboard then takes a seat up top. Thistle hops into the front seat with Alice. As the friends buckle in and take off, Thistle calls out: "STOP THE SHOW!" He leans out of the window and

whistles. <RUMBLE!> A pack of MOME RATHS stampede out of a flower bed and piles onto the top deck of the cart with Kiki. With everyone now accounted for, the gang hits the road for the first stop of the tour!

ACT TWO

BEAT A: The Cart pulls into a shady TULGEY WOOD clearing, where adoring fans are waiting for them. The crowd - including CYMBAL and DRUM FROGS, HORN DUCKS, ACCORDION OWLS, and Thistle's biggest fan, CHESHIRE CAT (wearing a homemade THISTLE HAT) – try to sneak a peek of the star of the show.

Kiki uses her wand to make a BUBBLE CURTAIN for the performance. Backstage, the gang sets up. Thistle (wearing a leafy Elton John-inspired costume) calls out directions. With the help of a MIRROR BIRD, Kiki does last looks, making sure everything is in place.

Thistle is ready to go. "Showtime!" Hattie heads through the curtain to introduce Thistle. Fergie plays intro music on a BOOMBOX, and Kiki bubbles Thistle up for his big entrance.

BEAT B: Thistle floats into view and the crowd goes wild! <POP!> He tumbles through the air and lands on a stage made from a giant mushroom cap. He rises up – the Mome Rathes having hoisted the stage onto their tufts! Cheshire: "What an entrance!"

The Mome Rathes spin the stage as campfireflies twinkle above him. The intro music ends and Thistle gets ready to sing his new song. It's a show-stopping moment... literally! The horn ducks start honking, spooking the campfireflies, who fly away. The stage goes dark. Thistle loses his footing and falls over!

BEAT C: Alice hops on stage. She creates a diversion by handing out Snap-along Ginger Snaps to the fans while Fergie and Hattie help a disheveled Thistle to his feet. He announces that his show is temporarily postponed due to technical difficulties.

Back in the Tea Party To-Go Cart, Thistle pops his head out of the window as Alice drives away: "If you thought this show was exciting, wait until you see what I've got planned at my next one!" Cheshire turns to a little horn duck. The show started strong, but he can't wait to actually hear Thistle's new song!

BEAT D: As she drives, Alice checks in with Thistle: "Everything okay?" Thistle assures Alice he's great. He just needs to work out a few show kinks. His next performance will put the bloom back on the rose!

BEAT E: The cart arrives at the PALACE COURTYARD and Thistle hops out, ready for show number two! The QUEEN OF HEARTS sits in the audience and invites Alice to join her. Cheshire fades in, sitting on the other side of the Queen. The Queen loves

music and can't wait to hear Thistle's new song. If she likes it, she may ask him to play it twice! She shares a bowl of jumbleberries with them.

The show opens without a hitch - the bubble entrance, landing on the mushroom cap stage. The Queen, Cheshire and Alice are properly wowed. But then, just as the Mome Raths hoist up the stage and Thistle is about to sing his new song -- <SNIFF-SNIFF>. They catch the scent of the Queen's jumbleberry snack. The Mome Raths pack heads straight for the Queen!

Kiki comes running out from backstage to stop them. Alice tries redirecting the pack too but ends up on top of them, next to Thistle! The startled Queen throws the bowl into the hedge maze. The Mome Raths go after it. Thistle tells his fans to catch him at his next stop before disappearing into the maze. WIPE TO...

BEAT F: DODO BEACH – Hattie peeks out from behind the bubble curtain. The beach is packed with LOBSTERS, OYSTERS, STARFISH, and Thistle's number one fan - Cheshire. Hattie turns to the gang, "We've got a full house!" Thistle is determined to make this show shine. Kiki bubbles Thistle up. Suddenly, "Ah-ah-ACHOO!" Kiki sneezes, accidentally sending Thistle's bubble over the crowd! As he floats away, tumbling inside the bubble, he calls out: "This show is postponed tooooo!"

ACT THREE

BEAT A: Alice follows Thistle's bubble to the SECRET COVE, where she <POPS> it with her whisk. As Thistle gently lands on a bed of seaweed, he turns to Alice. All this time spent in bubbles has got him thinking. His show needs more rehearsal time. Alice points out that none of the problems on tour have been due to Thistle not being prepared; it's all been things you can't practice for.

BEAT B: A floating thistle hat appears next to them, followed by the rest of Cheshire. He apologizes for the interruption, but wonders where the next show will be. As Thistle's biggest fan, he doesn't want to miss a chance to hear his new song. He even made his very own hat for the occasion!

Thistle starts to explain away the hiccups with the bubble, the stage, etc., but Cheshire politely stops him. He's seen the spectacle, but what he's *really* looking forward to is the one thing Thistle hasn't done yet... sing his new song!

BEAT C: As Alice listens, she's struck with a thought. She knows exactly what Thistle needs to do. "Just keep going!" Mishaps shouldn't stop you from doing what you love. Thistle wants to perform his new song and everyone wants to hear it. A few hiccups along the way shouldn't put an end to that.

Thistle thinks Alice is onto something. He's a born showman, so of course the show must go on! Next time, no matter what happens, Thistle will just keep going. WIPE TO:

BEAT D: NIGHT. The FLOWER GARDEN. In the same dirt clearing from the top of the episode, the crowd (including the Queen and Cheshire) gather before the bubble curtain as Alice hands out her Snap-along Ginger Snaps. Then – the intro music plays and Thistle floats in in his bubble. <POP!> He tumbles out, landing on the mushroom cap stage. The Mome Raths hoist it up, spinning it around as the campfireflies twinkle on. So far so good! Thistle is about to sing when – it starts to RAIN!

The audience take cover under big leaves. Thistle looks out at Alice and says, "Time to keep going!"

BEAT E: Thistle finally launches into an **ORIGINAL SONG: "EVERYTHING'S COMING UP THISTLE"**! A heartfelt intro quickly builds into an uptempo tune about the power of finding your joy and making the most of it. He compliments the lyrics with lively dance moves. His song bursts into a powerful crescendo as he sings about using that joy to thrive in any situation, good or bad. Dancing with Gene Kelly-like flair, he swings from overgrown stems and croons from the tops of leaves. The audience is enthralled and enchanted.

BEAT F: As the **SONG ENDS**, Thistle takes a bow, and the crowd bursts into applause. Cheshire: "That was beautiful!" Thistle searches the crowd for one face... Alice. He thanks her for encouraging him to keep going. He had a great time and so did those watching him. Speaking of which – who wants an encore! And as Thistle retakes the stage to continue his show, we... **FADE OUT.**